

The Liberal Democrat

J. B. Miller, Editor and Owner
Hercules L. Fry, City Editor and Advertising Manager.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF SEWARD COUNTY, LIBERAL CITY AND UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE

Published Every Thursday at Liberal, Seward County, Kansas.

Subscription Price, \$1.50 Per Year

Entered as second class matter January 6, 1911, at the postoffice at Liberal, Kansas, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

A CHAMPION "BONER."

Isn't it funny how big, broad-minded men will shrink and be small when they figure with the printer? What is the real reason for it? Nobody has yet explained.

About the smallest thing that has come to our notice was a certain "boner" pulled by the Dodge City Commercial Club. It seemed that they were in need of some printing (almost a hundred dollar's worth)

so they were willing to let the local printers have it—providing the price was right. When the bids came in they were all the same. Think of such a holdup as that. Surely the robbers got together and fixed the price.

If you go to a grocery store you'll be pretty apt to pay the same price for eggs, sugar, flour and anything the grocer has to sell. Go to any money-lending institution and witness the great (?) variation in the interest rate. Go to the different insurance companies and have them bid on insuring your property and see what sort of a bid you get. Price an automobile here and then see how much cheaper you can get it in a nearby town. Take the grain you have for sale and see which elevator offers you the highest price.

You'll find there won't be a great deal of difference; that in most cases there is none at all.

But getting back to the robber printers at Dodge City.

The business (?) men in that enterprising (?) city promptly put an end to their grand larceny aspirations. They sent the job out of town at a ten per cent discount.

How far would the average Com-

mercial Club go without a newspaper to carry it along on free advertising? How far would the average town get without a newspaper? What is the purpose of a Commercial Club, anyway? It is to work for the best interests of the town. Naturally money spent away from home doesn't help the town. That is the biggest thing cities have to fight today. But that is just what the Dodge City Commercial Club boosted.

It's as bad as a preacher coming to church drunk in order to give his congregation a lesson on temperance.

Of course the Dodge City papers will go on working for the best interests of the city. They couldn't be blamed much for anything they might say. But newspaper men aren't that type. They're big and broad. They have to be in order to remain in the business.

THE SPACE GRAFTERS.

This week The Democrat received its usual offer to exchange something other than cash for advertising space. It came from the capital city of our own state. Of course the offer was promptly and flatly turned down. It isn't fair to the home merchant and it isn't good policy for the paper.

There are thousands of business men who are eager to advertise until they find they must pay for it. Then their ardor cools somewhat and, occasionally, one of these fellows tries to convince us that it does not pay—after he has found out that it costs real money. The man who made us the kind offer is in that class.

The circular letter to us regarding this free advertising is very cleverly written. He tells us that our paper is "only one of the few" to receive the offer. We have been in the newspaper business long enough to know that every other Kansas newspaper received the same offer. Furthermore the writer says that 100 per cent of those who accepted the offer last year added \$100 to their earnings. We doubt if more than half a dozen newspapers in the whole state were green enough to accept the offer. Those that did, probably had the scholarship sold before they took up the contract.

Every week we get offers from the space grafters. They want to exchange free baths, baby carriages, sewing machines, false teeth, type, needles and various other sundry articles for free space. Our help, landlord an paper houses have a playful habit of insisting on cash and cash only for what they have to sell. In view of this, we have long ago gone on a cash basis.

We sure were sorry to turn down the Topeka gentleman's offer. But it's all the fault of the people we owe. If they'd just act white and—

WHAT FIGURES SHOW.

The figures given out by the government as a basis for draft make very interesting reading, says the Hutchinson News. The war department added to the National Guard of each state the number enlisted from that state in the regular army, in other words, the number of volunteers. This number was deducted from the quota of each state is to furnish by conscription.

Kansas is credited with 11,125 volunteers.

None of the states the size of Kansas has done as well. Not one. Connecticut which is rolling in wealth from munition making and is about the same population as Kansas, only had 7,807 volunteers. Other states whose population is practically the same as Kansas, volunteered this way: Arkansas, 7,155; Louisiana, 4,867; Mississippi, 5,600; Oklahoma, 4,344; South Carolina, 5,040.

New York with seven times the population of Kansas, only 52,071. Pennsylvania with five times the population, only 12,409. Illinois with four times the population, only 27,304. Missouri twice Kansas in population, 16,740. California with fifty per cent more people than Kansas, 51,786.

The only state which did better than Kansas was Oregon. None of our neighbors, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota or the like came near furnishing the number of volunteers that Kansas did, in proportion to population.

Very pleasant reading for Kansas and respectfully referred to the eastern papers which have been worrying about the lack of patriotism in the central west.

And that brings us to the question, what ails New York and the yellow tribes in that vicinity?

ARE WE HARD UP.

In view of the high price of gasoline, wouldn't it be awful if the sun and the moon would cease to shine. Bread is high, but what if the grass would stop growing.

The submarine menace is appalling, but just suppose there were no water.

Although the wages are low and help is scarce, is that condition not better than would be the case were there less help needed and fewer to pay wages?

If we could have everything we wanted, would we want everything we ought to have?

True I can't own a Paige or a Packard, but what if I couldn't get

to see them go by.

A great many things are troublesome, but what if I couldn't sleep at all?

I own no land, but what if I were restrained from walking abroad?

We say of the weather, it is too hot or too cold; too dry or too wet, too calm or too stormy. What would it be were it given to man to control it?

We age grouchy instead of gracefully. What would it be if we could not grow to finally get away from all our causes of complaining?

The best things to do is the best one can do to put the best in and get the best out of everything.

Lord, help us by keeping up your end of things.—The Chiropractic.

SEES END OF 2,000 SALOONS.

Charles H. Herman, president of the firm of Chapin & Gore, one of the largest whisky making concerns in the country, and directing head of the National Distillers' and Wholesale Liquor Dealers' association says that within sixty days not less than 2,000 saloons in Chicago will be forced out of business by the new legislation and a like proportion thruout the country will be effected similarly.

He estimates the whisky now in existence in the United States will be exhausted within a year at the present rate of consumption. He says he has positive knowledge there is not more than 200,000,000 gallons in government warehouses. The normal consumption is said to be about 135,000,100 gallons, while with the prospect of a dry period coming, it is expected drinkers will try to store up a supply thus taking all that is left over before the end of the next twelve months.

A NEAT PAPER.

One of the neatest papers that comes to our desk is the Campo (Colo.) Enterprise published by C. C. Swem. It is a small paper, being only six pages of four columns each. But what it lacks in size it makes up in quality. Everything is done as in quality. Everything is done as carefully as an old maid's fancy work.

There is a world of something else besides money coming from the publication of a paper like the Enterprise—the satisfaction of knowing that your work has been well done.

Here's success to you, Brother Swem. May your paper grow bigger and always remain as neat as it now is.

This begins to look like one of the "off years" for Southwest Kansas. The wheat was practically a failure. The extremely hot, dry weather has damaged the feed and corn crops, and unless a general rain comes soon these are going to be short. For the past several years this section has been unusually favored, and like all

sections there must come the lean years with the fat ones. There is no need for excitement because crops promise to be short—they have been before. All we can do is to make the best of it and get through as best we can. There is another year coming and conditions are going to be good when another crop is raised. There may be those who are

discouraged and would sell out and leave. Don't do it. The place where you might go might be the section to be visited by failure next year.

Mrs. F. A. Engle and sons, Vernon and Merle went to Manitou, Denver and Colorado Springs Wednesday morning where they will enjoy a vacation of several weeks.

A LITTLE PATCH! A FEW STITCHES

WILL ADD MONTHS TO THE LIFE OF
A PAIR OF SHOES

We are prepared to do your work promptly, reasonably and satisfactorily.

Save on your shoe bills by giving us a chance.

Burke's Shoe Shop

North
Avenue
Kansas

Once or Twice in a Life Time

Isn't very often but that's about as often as the average man builds a home. When he gets ready to build, he usually wants some help in the way of plans and suggestions. We have provided for this and our service is given free and cheerfully. A contract made now for a house bill is the best investment any man can make. Give us the opportunity to talk over the building of a new home for you.

Paul W. Light & Co

Lumber, Coal, Cement, Posts

Liberal, Kansas, Phone 142

Beaver, Okla., Phone No. 8

The Nations Need

STOUT BODIES STRONG MINDS

In times of national crisis everyone should be as near physically perfect as possible. Those who go to the front must be sound of body, while those left behind to bear the mental worry of separation and the sense of danger should possess strong minds to stand the strain.

Unless physically fit you are not the proper kind of an asset for the nation at a critical time.

Perfect health can come as a result of a well nourished bodies. Pure wholesome food is necessary to both physical and mental health, and the consumption of such in the necessary quantity is essential.

To be properly nourishing food should be carefully balanced. A certain amount of fruit, sweets and fats are necessary to complete nourishment.

Let us furnish your grocery needs. Our prices are as low as anyone can sell first class groceries, and anything less is poor economy. Give us a trial and see how well we will serve you.

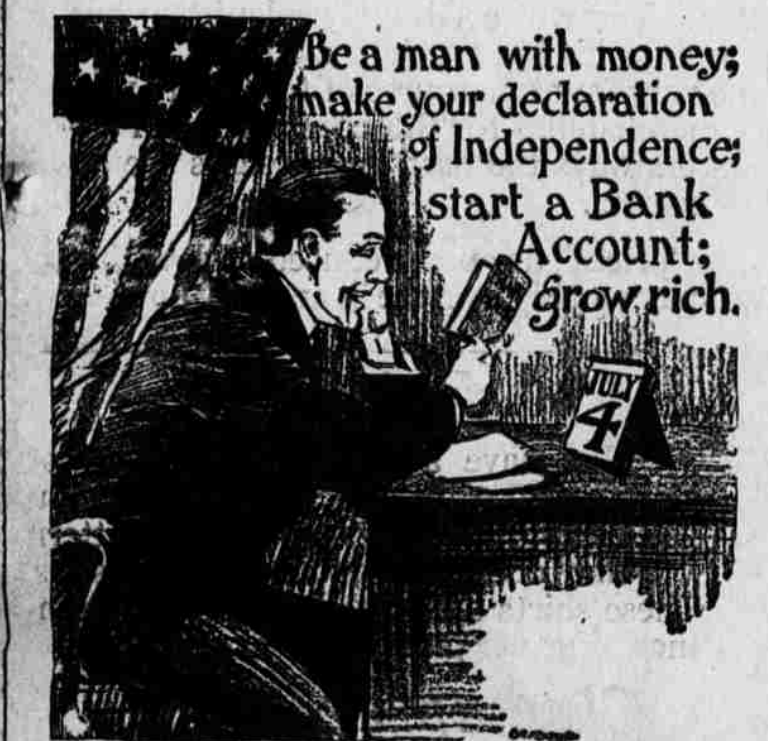
Riggle Brothers, Grocers



Our rubber goods are the lasting kind. Baby can chew on our nipples and still they last; the teeth will not break out of our superb combs; our water bags are not rotten when you get them. If you have not got a good rubber water-bag and fountain syringe in your house, get one from us and be ready at all times, when the doctor says "get one."

Come to OUR Drug Store

Wiley's Drug Company



Liberty is freedom. Freedom is the most precious possession of any man. INDEPENDENCE is what our fathers fought and died for.

You don't have to die for freedom. You can put money in our Bank and grow a FORTUNE that will free you from the dread of debt and poverty.

Put YOUR money in OUR Bank

Peoples State Bank